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SOURCE Meditsinskiy Rabotnik, No 28, 1949.

M. I. Khazanov, head of the Main Sanitation-Epidemiological Administration, Ministry of Health RSFSR, reported to the Board, Ministry of Health RSFSR, on measures for further development and improvement of sanitation-epidemiological stations. L'vov, director of the Orlov Oblast health department, Grimovich, chief state sanitation inspector of Leningrad Oblast, and Pal'kis, director of the Omsk Oblast health department, also submitted reports.

During the past year, an important reform has been introduced into the sanitation-epidemiological service. This reform is the establishment of a single type of sanitation-epidemiological station which will carry out all types of social health, sanitation-hygiene, and antiepidemic measures.

The experiment in reorganizing the Leningrad, Omsk, and Irkutsk oblast stations deserves attention. In their staffs they have sanitation and epidemiological groups and have thus achieved specialization in their operating and scientific research activity.

However, the reports emphasized that the decree of the Council of Ministers USSR and the directive of the Ministry of Health USSR are not being carried out satisfactorily in a number of autonomous republics and oblasts. The aim of the reorganization is the formal unification of disconnected links. The chief physicians of the Moscow, Tula, and Kaluga oblast stations have full-time duties as heads of the state sanitation inspection, and, as a result, the activity of these stations is limited.

Even after unification, many stations remained chiefly antiepidemic institutions, without segregated sanitation departments in their staffs. In Voronezh and Kursk oblasts, the majority of these stations do not have bacteriological facilities, and in Krasnodar Kray, Vladimir, Kirov, and Kemerovo oblasts, the majority do not have disinfection departments.

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Health departments are not giving enough attention to the organization of new stations and improvement of existing stations. The Ministry of Health of Bashkir ASSR and the Tyumen and Chita oblast health departments have not developed even one of the stations called for in the plan for this year.

The staff of the ministry requested that the ministers of health of the autonomous republics and the directors of oblast health departments complete the reorganization of stations within 2 months.

First, complete republic, oblast, kray, and city stations must be established. These will be the key centers, which will concentrate on using the most recent advances in prophylactics, hygiene, and the fight against infections in carrying out sanitation measures. Experienced specialists and organizers will head these stations.

The staff of the ministry instructed the leaders of local health centers to complete the organization of new stations scheduled for this year and to secure their locations, staffs, and equipment by 1 September.

The practice of having chief physicians of sanitation-epidemiological stations carry the duties of state sanitation inspection workers was abolished, and the ministry staff resolved to provide the stations completely with doctors by 1 September.

Directors of the institutes of hygiene, epidemiology, and microbiology and appropriate chairs of medical institutes were instructed to aid health centers in the reorganization of the sanitation epidemiological service and in the specialization of personnel. In particular, the staff resolved to organize 2-month specialization courses for young doctors destined for sanitation and antiepidemic work at bases of these institutes and at republic stations.

Up to now, sanitation-epidemiological councils and advisory organs for considering practical problems have not been set up in the majority of stations; therefore, the staff suggested that their organization be completed within a month. The GAFU (Main Administration for the Pharmaceutical Industry) of the RSFSR was charged with the task of equipping 600 sanitation-bacteriological stations in the next 6 months.

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- 2 -

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